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UPDATED

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Kansas Legislature passes resolutions declaring January Kansas Mentoring Month

The Kansas House and Senate passed resolutions today declaring January Kansas Mentoring Month (SR 1806, HR 6006) to encourage more Kansans to get involved with statewide mentoring efforts and to recognize those individuals already dedicating their time.

Sponsors in the House included Representatives Bob Bethell and Tom Hawk. In the Senate the resolution was introduced by Senators Steve Morris and Roger Reitz; additional cosponsors included Senators Abrams, Barnett, Brownlee, Brungardt, Emler, Francisco, Haley, Hensley, Holland, Huntington, Kelly, Kelsey, Kultala, Lee, Lynn, Marshall, McGinn, Ostmeyer, Owens, V. Schmidt, Schodorf, Steineger, Taddiken, Umbarger, Vratil and Wagle.

Coach Bill Snyder, co-chair of the Kansas Mentors program, and mentoring matches from several Kansas programs were in attendance including representatives from: 4-H Youth Development, Compeer of Topeka, Kansas Big Brothers Big Sisters, YouthFriends and Youth Horizons.

“The passing of these resolutions will bring statewide attention to all young Kansans who could benefit from the support of a caring role model,” said Snyder. “The development of our youth is so very crucial to the future of our state and therefore we share our sincere gratitude with the Kansas Legislature for helping to bring attention to statewide efforts.”

Today also marks National Thank Your Mentor Day. A highlight of National Mentoring Month, this day provides an opportunity for all Kansans to share their gratitude with those individuals who have made an impact.

Kansas Mentors, the lead for the state’s mentoring month celebrations, encourages individuals to consider “passing on” their thanks by signing up to mentor a young Kansan. To view a statewide directory of programs visit the Kansas Mentors’ website at: www.KansasMentors.org

Kansas’ celebration of Mentoring Month joins a national effort spearheaded by the Harvard School of Public Health, MENTOR and the Corporation for National and Community Service. To learn more visit: www.nationalmentoringmonth.org

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